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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Art Unit:

2627

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Examiner:

Chen, Tianjie

Customer:

20874

Title:

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Mail Stop RCE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1:10 addressed to Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on October 25, 2006, under "EV676908145US" mailing label number.

Cynthia L. Losurdo

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant submits the following Information Disclosure Statement, and directs the attention of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office to the references listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A.

The information is presented so that the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office may, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. <u>See</u> 37 C.F.R. § 1.104(a) and § 1.105 (concerning the PTO duty to consider and use any such information).

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner expressly consider the information disclosed herein during the prosecution of this application, that the Examiner initial the

corresponding box on the enclosed Form PTO/SB/08A next to each of the considered references, and that these references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent which issues from this application.

This Information Disclosure Statement "shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made." See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g). This Information Disclosure Statement "shall not be construed to be an admission that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in § 1.56(b)." See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(h). The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (1) more than three months from the application's filing date and (2) after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Office Action or Notice of Allowance 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) and no item of information contained in the present Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement and therefore no fee is believed required.

Authorization To Charge Necessary Fees

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional necessary fees associated with this submission, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-0289.

Respectfully submitted,

Kenneth Altshuler Reg. No. 50,551

Dated:

, ,

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PTO/SB/08A (10-01)
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			OCT 0 5 2006	Application Number	10/605,222	
NFORMATION DISCLOSURE FOR STATEMENT BY ARPLICANTS				Filing Date	September 16, 2003	
				First Named Inventor	Armagost, Karl M.	
			& TRADEMAR	Art Unit	2627	
(use as many sheets as necessary)				Examiner Name	Chen, Tianjie	
heet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	1046-033	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner	Cite No.1	Document Number Number Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication/issue date MM-DD-YYYY May 28, 1996	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Filing Date		
, 	AA	5,521,586		Takeshita	June 20, 1994		
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS									
Examiner	Cite	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or	Pages, Columns, Lines,	T°			
Examiner Signature			Date Considere	ed					

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^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Kind Codes of U.S. Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.